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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/817,965	03/27/2001	Claus Bauer	GR 00 P 1603	9887

7590 06/19/2003

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

PHAN, THAI Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2123	6

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/817,965	Applicant(s) Claus Bauer
	Examiner Thai Phan	Art Unit 2123
<i>-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</i>		
Period for Reply		
<p>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 		
Status		
1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>Mar 27, 2001</u>		
2a) <input type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL. 2b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final.		
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.		
Disposition of Claims		
4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-6</u> is/are pending in the application.		
4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.		
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.		
6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>1-6</u> is/are rejected.		
7) <input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.		
8) <input type="checkbox"/> Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.		
Application Papers		
9) <input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner.		
10) <input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) <input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b) <input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).		
11) <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) <input type="checkbox"/> approved b) <input type="checkbox"/> disapproved by the Examiner. If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.		
12) <input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.		
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120		
13) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All b) <input type="checkbox"/> Some* c) <input type="checkbox"/> None of: 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____. 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.		
14) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e). a) <input type="checkbox"/> The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.		
15) <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.		
Attachment(s)		
1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)		
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)		
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____		
4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____		
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)		
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is response to patent application S/N: 09/817,965, filed on 03/27/2001. Claims 1-6 are pending in this Office Action.

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ernam et al., US patent no. 6,097,951.

As per claim 1, Ernam discloses method and apparatus for scaling a wireless telecommunications network with feature limitations substantially similar to the claimed invention (Summary of the Invention). According to Ernam, the method for scaling the wireless network architecture for optimally processing subscriber calls includes steps of

setting up cellular functions for partitioning as functions of a number of subscribers of a radio or wireless communication network, a capacity or size of a load selected from the group consisting of a radio load and a switching load, and that is caused by a geographically oriented unit of a hierarchical level at the communication network (Figs. 1-3, col. 1, lines 16-53, col. 2, lines 15-49, col. 6, lines 7-41, for example),

setting up a scalable architecture scheme or formula which uses cellular functions for permitting a size of a processing load occurring at each node, in case of a given assignment of geographically oriented units of the first partitioned hierarchy, for a given capacity or number of subscribers (Figs. 2-3, col. 6, lines 7-41, col. 7, lines 25-48, col., 10, lines 40-67),

using the plan for assignment such as dispatch MSC for permitting a possible growth in a number of subscribers of the communication network (col. 4, lines 27-41, col. 7, lines 25-48, for example). Ernam discloses relative load of subscriber distribution, and not based on geographical cell structure (col. 7, lines 25-48, col. 10, lines 48-58, for example). Ernam does not expressly disclose without a processing load at a geographically oriented unit of the second hierarchical level as claimed.

Practitioner in the art at the time of the invention was made would have found Ernam disclosure of scalable RF communication network with feature of load distribution relative to

MSCs and the load distribution is not based on geographically cell structure could obviously imply the limitation of without a processing load as claimed because the scalable network uses loads from pools of MSCs and such pool of MSCs is not based on or not required geographically oriented units as claimed to predict a network capacity (col. 7, lines 8-48, col. 8, lines 32-61).

As per claim 2, Ernam discloses optimization which could include linear optimization (col. 7, lines 10-20).

As per claim 3, Ernam discloses cell bases and cell boundaries for the base station in the wireless communication network as claimed.

As per claim 4, Ernam discloses cell-based functions for approximately partitioning and distribution of calling loads, etc. (Col. 6, line 59 to col. 7, line 8, for example)

As per claims 5 and 6, Ernam discloses switchings at the boundaries of cells and iterative search for optimized load distribution (col. 8, lines 12-51, for example).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

1. US patent no. 5,465,390, issued to Cohen, Robert, on Nov. 1995
2. US patent no. 5,561,841, issued to Markus, Ots, on Oct. 1996
3. US patent no. 5,764,740, issued to Holender, Wlodek, on June 1998
4. US patent no. 6,085,335, issued to Djoko et al., on July 2000
5. US patent no. 6,370,572 B1, issued to Lindskog et al., on Apr. 2002

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thai Phan whose telephone number is (703) 305-3812.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 746-7239, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal
Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

June 16, 2003

Thai Phan
Patent Examiner
Thai Phan
AV 2123